

STAFF REPORT

To: City Council Finance Committee

Date: May 5, 2009

From: Brenda Mills, ARRA Project Manager

Via: Gary W. Jackson, City Manager

Subject: American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the City Council Finance Committee on the city's American Reinvestment and Recovery Act program and to seek committee approval to move forward with applications for specific funding opportunities.

Administrative Updates

In an effort to provide timely information about the city's ARRA program, staff is coordinating two important communications efforts over the next several weeks. First, the city launched the Economic Recovery eNews last week. The e-newsletter will provide information to citizens, vendors and other community contacts who have signed up to receive ARRA updates. Staff is also planning two public meetings to share information about the overall ARRA program, specific funding opportunities, and vendor registration. The meetings are scheduled for May 14 (AB Tech Victoria Campus) and May 21 (AB Tech Enka Campus). Meetings will be held from 6-7:30pm and will include time for Q & A from the public.

Program Updates

Public Safety

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

The Asheville Police Department currently participates in the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (NCSBI) Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force. This task force is one of 59 regional task forces located throughout the United States. The ICAC task force investigates offenders who use the Internet, online communications systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children.

ICAC investigations require very specialized and complex computer equipment and training to be effective. Through this recovery act grant opportunity, APD would request the following training and equipment that would allow for a second investigator to be fully trained and equipped to investigate Internet crimes. This training and equipment is as follows:

Training:

Digital Evidence Acquisition Specialist Training (DEASTP):	\$3,789.81
Seized Computer Evidence Recovery Specialist (SCERS):	\$5,841.38
Access Data, All Access Pass (Unlimited – 2 Detectives):	\$10,000.00

Equipment:

Dell Optiplex 960 MT Computer:	\$1,647.00
Mac Pro Forensics Computer:	<u>\$4,899.00</u>

Total:	\$26,177.19
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This grant is paid at 100% with no local matching funds required and will increase efficiency by allowing for a second investigator to investigate child pornography and exploitation cases.

Edward Byrne – Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Local Solicitation

The Asheville Police Department is applying for the JAG – Local Solicitation Award. This is a predetermined amount of funds based on the Part 1 Uniform Crime Reporting Crimes. Asheville Police and Buncombe County Sheriff have been allocated \$372,630 with Asheville receiving \$265,466 and Buncombe receiving \$107,164. As part of this grant APD will adopt an MOU with Buncombe County that authorized APD to administer the Grant and disperse the appropriate funds to the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department.

Equipment:

The APD plans to purchase security enhancement equipment for the Municipal Building which will replace funding that was eliminated from the 2009-2010 Budget. The improvements will update the video security system within the Municipal Building, update and add key card access to doors as needed, and integrate an alarm system that makes internal notification of unauthorized entries to secure areas. It is estimated that this will cost approximated \$215,000.

Additionally APD plans to purchase a SPEX AFIS system that will enable APD to scan and enter fingerprints and palm prints into a local system that will analyze the prints and compare with previous sets. This will be a great improvement to the current system as it will use the increasing data compiled local for comparison. It will also be able to use palm prints which we currently do not process.

Municipal Building Security:

Upgrade to camera system (32 cameras), key card access to critical office areas (50) and integrated alarms system to include associated computer hardware	\$225,956
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SPEX AFIS/APIS:

Computer, monitor, modem, scanner, etc.	\$30,500
Interface with SPEX central server	\$995
Yearly software support	\$1,895
Interface with CCID (Buncombe Detention)	\$995
Shipping, packing and handling	\$625
IDENTIX service contract *	\$4,500

Total:	\$265,466
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This is a 100% non-matching grant that will enable the APD to greatly improve the Municipal Building Security and improve the processing of fingerprints and palm prints to compare to those compiled locally.

Energy

U.S. Department of Energy – Energy Efficient Community Block Grant

Summary Facts

- City of Asheville total award is \$804,700
- Minimum amount to be used on government projects is \$554,700
- We may not use more than \$250,000 for awarding sub grants out to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for the purpose of assisting the implementation of the EECS of the applicant
- We may not use more than \$250,000 for the establishment of a revolving loan fund
- We need to develop an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (EECS) to be submitted June 25th, 2009.
- The funding will be staggered. The first wave of funds will equal \$250,000. The date for award is not posted.
- The second wave of funding will be determined based upon the EECS

Fourteen Eligible Activities

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy• Technical consultant services• Residential and commercial building energy audits• Financial incentive programs• Energy efficiency retrofits• EEC programs for building and facilities• Development and implementation of transportation programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building codes and inspections• Energy distribution• Material conservation• Reduction and capture of methane and GHG• Traffic signals and street lighting• Renewable energy technology on government buildings• - Any other appropriate activity
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Major Outcome Metrics

1. Jobs created/retained (rule of thumb: \$92,000 spent = 1 job)
2. Funds leveraged
3. Renewable energy produced
4. Energy saved
5. Green house gases reduced

Staff Recommendations: 1) Finance Committee approval of the maximum allowable amount of funds (\$250,000) to be set aside for a sub grant program available for community projects.
2) Finance Committee designation of the Housing and Community Development Committee to serve as the board who determines the projects funded through the community component of the EECBG funds.

Policy Decisions and Next Steps

Staff is seeking City Council Finance Committee authorizations for the following grant application and entitlement for ARRA funding:

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (**OJJDP**)

- OJJDP Internet Crimes Against Children (Training & Equipment) \$26,177.19

Edward Byrne – Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Local Solicitation

- Approval of MOU agreement to receive funds for Asheville Police and Buncombe County Sheriff for \$372,630 with Asheville receiving \$265,466 and Buncombe receiving \$107,164.

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) – Energy Efficient Community Block Grant (EECBG)

- The Finance Committee approves the maximum allowable amount of funds (\$250,000) to be set aside for a sub grant program available for community projects.
- The Finance Committee designates the Housing and Community Development Committee to serve as the board who determines the projects funded through the community component of the EECBG funds.